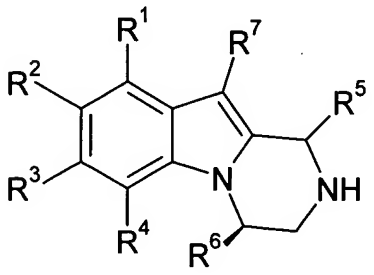
IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound according to claim 1, wherein~~ A chiral compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

-R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy ~~or heterocyclyl~~;

with the proviso that at least one of the moieties R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen; ~~and~~

R^5 is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R^6 is alkyl or cycloalkyl~~.~~; and

R^7 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio;

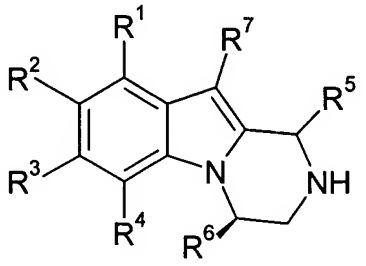
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt,

a hydrate, or

a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

3 – 32. (Canceled).

33. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a chiral compound according to formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy ~~and heterocyclyl, or R^3 and R^4 form together a $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$ group~~;

with the proviso that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen;

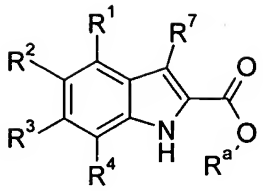
R^5 is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R^6 is alkyl~~,~~ or cycloalkyl~~, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl~~; and

R^7 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio;

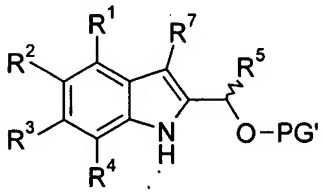
comprising alkylation of a compound selected from the group consisting of

a)



wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^7 are as defined above,

b)



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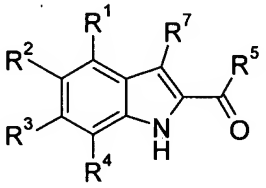
wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, and R^7 are as defined above, and PG' is hydrogen or an OH-protecting group, and

c)



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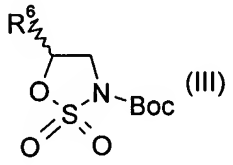
wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, and R^7 are as defined above;

with a compound of formula (III)

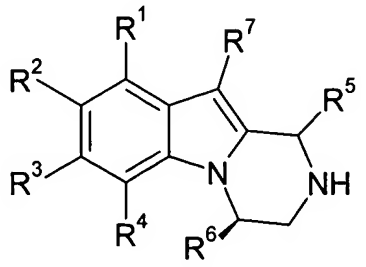


(III)

wherein R^6 is as defined as above.

34. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) ~~as set out in claim 1~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically

acceptable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier ~~or excipient.~~, wherein the compound is a chiral compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy, or R^3 and R^4 form together a $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$ group;

with the proviso that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen;

R^5 is hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R^6 is alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

R^7 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, carboxyalkyl, carbamoylalkyl, alkoxycarbonylalkyl, aryloxycarbonylalkyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy or alkylthio.

35. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, aryloxy, alkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylsulfoxyl, arylsulfoxyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, nitro, cyano, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, mono- and di-alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, and carboxy;

with the proviso that at least one of the moieties R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen; and

R^6 is alkyl or hydroxyalkyl.

36. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R^6 is methyl.

37. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R^5 is hydrogen.

38. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, wherein R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy.

39. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 38, wherein R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.

40. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy and cyano or R^3 and R^4 form together a $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$ group.

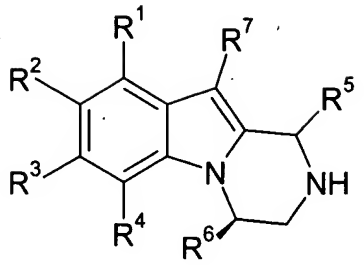
41. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, trifluoromethyl and cyano.

42. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and trifluoromethyl.

43. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, wherein R^4 is methyl or ethyl and R^1, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen.

44. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 42, wherein R^4 is fluoro, cyano or trifluoromethyl and R^1, R^2 and R^3 are independently selected from hydrogen or methyl.

45. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the compound is a chiral compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently selected from hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, cyano and trifluoromethyl, with the proviso that at least one of R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen;

R^5 is methyl;

R^6 is alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl or alkoxyalkyl; and

R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.

46. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

47. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46, wherein the compound is (R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

48. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

49. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 48, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

50. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

51. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 50, wherein the compound is (R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

52. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

53. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 52, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

54. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)- 6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl -1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

55. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 54, wherein the compound is (R)- 6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl -1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

56. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

57. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 56, wherein the compound is (R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

58. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

59. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 58, wherein the compound is (R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

60. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

61. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 60, wherein the compound is (R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile or the hydrochloride salt thereof.

62. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a hydrate thereof.

63. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 62, wherein the compound is (R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole or the oxalate salt thereof.

64. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of
(R)-6-thienyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4-methyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;

(R)- 6-ethyl-8-fluoro-4-methyl -1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-8-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-6-fluoro-4,7-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-6-carbonitrile; and
(R)-4,6,10-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.

65. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 34, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

(S)-(7-Methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indol-4-yl)-methanol;
(S)-(7-Trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indol-4-yl)-methanol; and
(R)-10-Methyl-2,3,7,8,9,10-hexahydro-1H-8,10a-diaza-cyclopenta[c]fluorine;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

66. (New) The compound according to claim 2, wherein R^6 is alkyl.

67. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R^6 is methyl.

68. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R^5 is hydrogen.

69. (New) The compound according to claim 66, wherein R^7 is hydrogen, alkyl or alkoxy.

70. (New) The compound according to claim 69, wherein R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.

71. (New) The compound according to claim 2, selected from the group consisting of:
(R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole; and
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a hydrate or a pharmaceutically acceptable ester thereof.

72. (New) The compound according to claim 71, selected from the group consisting of:
(R)-6-ethyl-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole;
(R)-4,6-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole; and
(R)-7-chloro-4-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-pyrazino[1,2-a]indole.